

# CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

Date: 06/23/2014

TO: File -Dairy Dreams

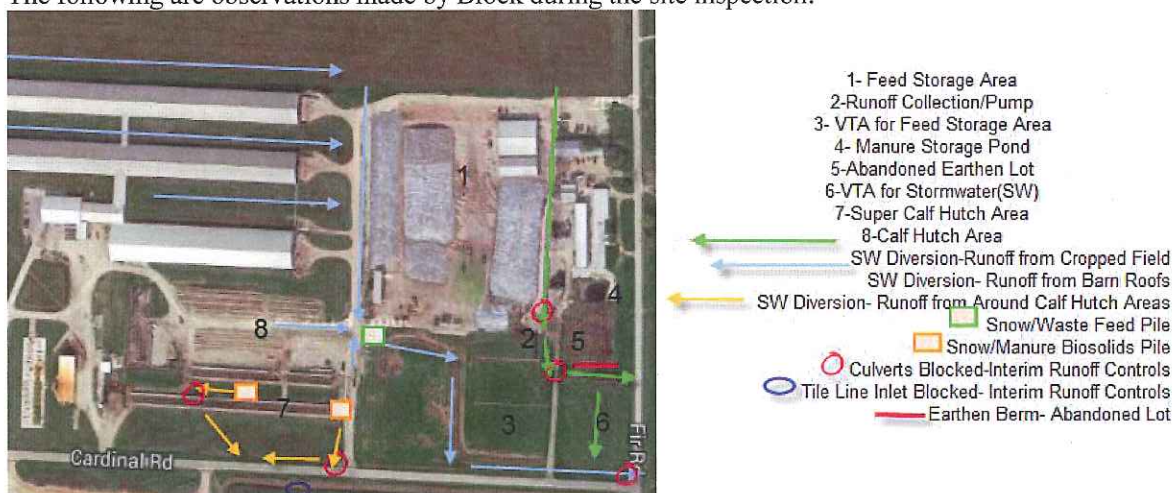
FROM: Danielle Block, Agricultural Runoff Management Specialist

SUBJECT: Site Visit- Discharge complaint from the county

On April 10, 2014 at 9am Block was contacted by the Kewaunee County Land and Water Office concerning a citizen complaint in regards to Dairy Dreams and runoff from their facility. Andy Wallander indicated that they were having issues with their feed storage runoff collection system and that he had been on site the day prior.

At 10am Block and Wallander, along with Paul Fredrick(Land and Water Technician) visited the Dairy Dreams facility and met with Rick Havel the Operations Manager(Owner, Don Niles was out of town.) Havel explained (Niles later confirmed) that the feed storage runoff control pump had been frozen and inoperable for several days. A large amount of snow/waste feed was stacked within the feed storage area and was actively melting. At the time of the site inspection the pump was operable, although the automatic pump timer was inoperable.

The following are observations made by Block during the site inspection:



Green arrows indicate clean SW diversion flow direction: Two concerns observed- windblown feed was observed within this diversion and a channelized flow path of leachate from the runoff collection system to this SW diversion.

Blue arrows indicate clean SW diversion flow direction: Two concerns observed- Snow/waste feed pile stacked within/near SW diversion and runoff potential from calf hutch area.

Orange arrows indicate SW flow path near/around the super calf hutch area: Three concerns observed- Several piles of snow/manure biosolids, snowmelt runoff from one manure/snow pile observed in road ditch and the source of the water discharging from under the super hutch area.

Block and the County LWCD recommended that the farm install interim controls. The red circles above indicate areas where culverts were blocked or were previously blocked. The blue circle is a tile inlet that

Block/County LWCD recommended be covered, allowing water to settle within the field. Block asked that the farm to collect as much of the feed storage runoff as possible beyond the required collection of the first flush, to move all snow and feed/manure piles to manure storage and to collect and transfer to storage any SW within blocked diversion areas that have come in contact with waste feed or leachate.

On April 11, 2014 Niles left a voicemail indicating that interim controls were put into place. Niles sent an email to Block on April 13, 2014 explaining what had been done onsite(Below.)

I left both of you a voicemail on Friday to update our progress at Dairy Dreams. As you are both aware, we have been challenged in recovering from a severe, prolonged winter and its consequences.

- 1) The culverts that you recommended have been blocked off to prevent runoff from the east ditch and the south ditch from entering the leachate area. We have also blocked off the ditch immediately east of the calf hutches. All blocked ditches are being pumped into the leachate collection pit with a skid steer pump. The main calf hutch area, not drained by the ditch referred to above is being drained directly on to the feed pad, where it is entirely contained in the leachate collection system. All of the water leaving the leachate system is now being collected in the pit, none is running across the spreader bars. This is a temporary measure until the grass is growing and we have confidence in the automatic controls of the leachate collection.
- 2) Snow piles have been moved to the feed pad or the agitation ramps of the manure pit.
- 3) Manure biosolids outside the super hutch area have been cleaned up
- 4) Snow and TMR sweeping piles on the feed pad are being broken up daily.
- 5) We are looking into alternative approaches to our current calf hutch setup, which has grown beyond its original footprint, in order to ensure collection of all runoff.
- 6) We are assessing the challenges in our leachate collection system as it currently exists and identifying improvements that can be made.

On April 14, 2014 Block scheduled a full site inspection of Dairy Dreams facility to include EPA and the County LWCD; the inspection occurred on April 16, 2014.